

in the middle of the support structure 5 and two supports 5.1 and 5.2 arranged to the side of the support structure 5. A generous opening 5.4 is provided in the central plate 5.3. Two deflecting elements are arranged at the outer ends of the support structure 5 and are formed by two broad deflecting rollers 3.1 and 3.2, at the ends of which two gears 3.3 and 3.4 as well as 3.5 and 3.6 are arranged. The broad deflecting rollers 3.1 and 3.2 are mounted rotatably at the ends of the respective lateral supports 5.1 and 5.2. Furthermore, four narrow deflecting rollers 4.1 through 4.4, which form a rectangle with one another with two deflection axes 15, are located in the central area of the supports 5.1 and 5.2. The narrow deflecting rollers 4.1 through 4.4 are also mounted rotatably in the lateral supports 5.1 and 5.2. The louver 2, which forms an endless band, is guided around the deflecting rollers, and part of this endless band consists of a broad band 2.1 and the other part of two narrow bands 2.2 and 2.3, respectively, which pass over with their ends into the ends of the broad band. An opening is provided for the selector lever in the area of the broad band 2.1, and the two narrow bands 2.2 and 2.3 themselves form an opening through which a selector lever can be passed. The louver 2 can include an elastic portion 12, having elastic properties, at least in the circumferential direction of the closed loop, the elastic louver portion being provided over at least a part of a length of the louver.--.

Pages 9 and 10, please cancel the replacement paragraph starting on page 9 at line 17 and ending on page 10 at line 5 in the December 26, 2001 Amendment, and replace the original paragraph with the following new paragraph: